श्री सुखराम : अगर यह रिज़नेबल है तो ...

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी : हम यह जाना चाहते हैं कि इसका क्राइटीरिया क्या है ? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, I have appointed a high-level Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Production). This Committee would recommend whether the bid is reasonable or not. On that basis, the decision would be taken. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: We want to know what are the criteria; not the Committee's recommendations. The hon. Minister should tell us as to what are the criteria laid down for this purpose. *(Interruptions)* Everywhere there is only one bid. Where is the question of higher and lower in this? What are the criteria? This requires just a one-line answer that these are the criteria evolved by the Ministry.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I point out one thing? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Sir, you should give a directive to the hon. Minister. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, contracts worth thousands of crores would be awarded in the next few days and the next few weeks. There must be a telecom Regulatory Authority of India. The Government is bringing forward a Bill which is highly defective. Would the Government assure us that before the financial bids are opened, this Telecom Regulatory Authority of India would be put in place and the criteria would be properly evolved? I learn, Sir, that the financial bids are going to be opened in the next few days in regard to pagers and cellular phones and the Government and its Committee are likely to decide the matter in a whimsical fashion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, the Regulatory Authority is going to be constituted very shortly. As the hon. Member has stated...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: What is the Regulatory Authority?... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKH RAM: Please allow me to speak. The Regulatory Authority starts only when the private sector comes into position. So, when these bids are opened, we know what is the financial position and how much offer they have made.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: After they know, what will you do?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Otherwise, before that there is no function for this... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Who will take a decision personally? ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, you may kindly permit a special discussion on this tomorrow. The financial bids are likely to get...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have given a notice for this discussion. I will consider it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Increase in Motor Vehicles in Delhi

*46. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI ANANTRAY
DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last two decades Motor Vehicles in Delhi have increased by eight times that is from three lakhs to 24 lakhs;

(b) if so, the figure of Motor Vehicles in major metropolis and Ahmedabad during the last two decades;

(c) what are the health hazards of such an extraordinary increase in Motor Vehicles; and

(d) the details of emission of pollution in Delhi and Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. The total number of registered motor vehicles in Delhi has increased from 3.16 lakhs as on 31.3.1975 to 24.32 lakhs as on 31.3.1995, showing an almost eight fold increase.

(b) The number of registered motor vehicles in major metropolis including Ahmedabad during the last two decades is given in the Table below:

As on 31st March	Delhi	Bombay	Calcutta	Madras	Ahmedabad
					(Figures in lakhs)
1975	2.35	2.21	1.26	0.48	0.57
1985	8.41	4.41	3.11	1.66	1.77
1994	22.39	6.08	5.45	6.89	4.78

(c) The principal health effects of the major vehicular pollutants such as oxides of nitrogen and suspended particulate matter are respiratory diseases and increased susceptibility to infection. Carbon monoxide can effect neuro-behavioural functions and present a risk to the foetus. Lead particulates may impair the normal intellectual development and learning ability in children. Some of the volatile organic constituents such as benzene from automotive fuels are carcinogenic.

(d) The vehicular pollution load in Delhi and Ahmedabad has been estimated to be 1319.96 tonnes per day and 325.13 tonnes per day respectively.

Denial of Visas to Pilgrims by Pakistan

*47. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that until 1992 all pilgrim lists consisting of both, Keshdharis and Monas recommended by DSGMC were given visas by Pakistan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in 1993, 1994 and 1995 all Monas recommended by DSGMC were denied visas; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government taken to make Pakistan see reason?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government recommend to the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi lists of Indian pilgrims, including those of Delhi Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee, desirous of visiting Sikh gurudwaras located in Pakistan under the bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines, 1974.

Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi is not required to communicate to Government detailed information regarding the number of visas granted of rejected to Indian nationals for visits to gurudwaras in Pakistan. Government's attention, however, has been drawn to reports that in recent times Keshdharis and Monas have been refused visas by Pakistan for visiting gurudwaras under the Protocol.

On various pretexts in the recent years Pakistan has been resiling from its commitments under the protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines. Pakistan's negative approach in this regard hurts the sentiments and devotion of the various communities in the two countries for the sacred and historic shrines in the other and adversely affects people-to-people contacts between India and Pakistan.

(c) Government have urged Pakistan to fulfil its commitments under the hido-Pak Protocol on Religious Shrines, 1974 and have also specifically proposed that the